ACPA Newsletter
PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN CATHOLIC PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Vol. 1, No. 6 September 1951

FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Association was held as scheduled on Monday, September 3, 1951. Mass was celebrated by Reverend John W. Stafford, C.S.V., President of the Association, at the Cathedral of the Holy Name at nine o'clock. The luncheon, held at Lewis Towers, the Downtown Building of Loyola University, was attended by 125 persons, and there were approximately 150 present at the meeting which followed. This number is the largest, both for the luncheon and for the meeting, which the Association has so far attracted.

The Board of Directors held two meetings at Chicago: one prior to the general meeting, and the other subsequent to the Association meeting. The following points, pertaining to the Association meeting and to the meeting of the Board of Directors, are selected and presented as being of general interest:

Panel Discussion.....

Because the business meeting last year had consumed a disproportionately large amount of time, this year the panel discussion was scheduled first. The topic of this year's discussion was Client Centered Therapy. Dr. Barry Fagin, who was to be a participant in the panel discussion, was unable to attend, but he nevertheless sent his paper which was read by Brother F. Vincent Grimes. Dr. William C. Cottle discussed Client Centered Therapy from the viewpoint of clinical practice. Rev. Louis B. Snider discussed the topic from a moral and ethical standpoint, whereas Rev. Charles A. Curran considered its implications for Catholic Psychologists. The discussion which followed the general presentation was lively and centered particularly about the presentations of Father Curran and Father Snider with their particular bearing on Catholic aspects of the topic.

Election of Officers.....

The Chairman of the Committee on Elections, Dr. Harry V. McNeill, reported at the meeting that on the basis of the preferential count as provided on the election ballot, the following persons were elected to office:

President-elect:	Dr. Alexander A. Schneiders
Members of the Board of Directors:	Rev. Vincent V. Herr, S. J.
	Dr. William A. Kelly

There was per se only one vacancy to be filled on the Board of Directors. However, it was foreseen that Dr. Schneiders might be chosen as President-elect, in which case his unexpired term on the Board of Directors would be filled by the man who received the second highest preferential count. In accordance with this provision, therefore, Father Herr will have a full three-year term, and Dr. Kelly will have the one year remaining of the unexpired term of Dr. Schneiders.

The Board has designated Father Herr as Chairman of the Committee on Membership, and Dr. Kelly as Chairman of the Committee on Elections. The two additional members of each of these Committees will be announced in the following issue of the NEWSLETTER.

Financial Report as of September 3, 1951

Receipts:		Expenditures:	
		Mailing permit fees	$ 30.00
Cash on hand, September 1950	$545.18	Post Office deposit	50.00
Receipts from:		NEWSLETTER supplies	249.50
Dues payments	$883.00	Typing NEWSLETTER	40.00
Subscriptions to NEWSLETTER	81.00	Printing NEWSLETTER (5 issues)	352.00
Use of ACPA mailing list	15.00	Form letters	13.90
Total	$979.00	Mimeograph material	26.10
		Programs	32.00
		Secretarial help	165.50
		Secretary's office expenses	40.00
		Board members' traveling expenses	250.00
		Total	$1249.00

Total Receipts	$1524.18
Total Expenditures	1249.00
Balance	$ 275.18

/s/ M. Gertrude Reiman
Treasurer

B. R. Philip
Walter L. Wilkins
Auditors

Budget for 1952

Estimated Receipts

		NEWSLETTER:	
Dues at $3.00 from each of 300 members	$ 900.00	Printing of six issues	$ 400.00
Renewals of Subscriptions to NEWSLETTER	100.00	Postage for bulk mailing	50.00
		Permit for bulk mailing	10.00
		Mimeographing, programs, etc.	100.00
Total	$1000.00	Office of Executive Secretary:	
		Secretarial help	300.00
		Other expenses	50.00
		Board Members' traveling expenses	250.00
		Total	$1160.00

The budget, prepared by the Board of Directors, was presented to the meeting by Dr. M. Gertrude Reiman, the Association treasurer. The latter estimated that the current balance of $275.18 would be sufficient for the rest of the calendar year, the chief anticipated expenses for this period being the two remaining issues of the NEWSLETTER and the expenses of the secretary's office. The discrepancy between estimated income and estimated expenditures was obvious, and this point received major attention in the discussion of the budget which followed its presentation. The Board of Directors had considered b rejected the possibility of meeting the estima shortage by an increase in the amount of annua dues. The Board felt that the estimated defic could be made up by an increase in new members new subscribers to the NEWSLETTER. Either of in sufficient numbers would solve the Associati economic problem. The members present at the ing acquiesced in this opinion, and the propos budget was adopted. It is clear, however, tha this is a matter in which the help of our memb is essential. Send names to Executive-Secreta

ACPA NEWSLETTER

Bimonthly publication of the American Catholic Psychological Association.

Editor: Rev. William C. Bier, S.J.
Fordham University
New York 58, N. Y.

Book Review Editor:
Dr. Virginia M. Staudt
Notre Dame College
Staten Island 1, N.Y.

tation honoring Father Moore.....

At their spring meeting, the Board of Directors considered a suggestion from ne of our members that the Association take some suitable steps to honor Father Thomas Moore for his outstanding contributions to American Catholic Psychology. The Board mmissioned Dr. Reiman to prepare a resolution to this effect for presentation at the nual meeting. The following was prepared and presented at the meeting by Dr. Reiman:

For almost half a century Thomas Verner Moore devoted himself to the science and profession of psychology. Through his teaching hundreds of students were introduced to the subject and many of them were stimulated to make it their career; those who had the privilege of working under his direction were given constant challenge and encouragement, while even those who had the benefit of one or two courses received a lasting impression that enriched their personal and social insight.

His versatile and inquiring mind was pecurliarly fitted for research, and he was responsible for a number of original and important investigations into the nature of mental processes and their organization. Social and psychiatric problems concerned him also and whenever possible he tried to find an answer: thus he applied the same keen analytic methods to study of the disordered personality.

His interest in, and sympathy for, the handicapped and unhappy individual led him to qualify in psychiatry as well as psychology and he used his therapeutic skills through war and peace. He early recognized the unmet needs of intellectually deficient children and established school and clinic to help them. His lucid writings extended his influence and explained mental hygiene principles to many people who would otherwise never have experienced their value.

Finally, since he exemplified in himself the union of religion and psychology and its fruition in service, he sought to enlist new workers in this dual field and facilitate their training.

Because of his distinguished achievements, because he has done more than any one person to carry out the aims of our Association and because he is in a very real sense its sponsor, the American Catholic Psychological Association takes pride in publicly honoring Thomas Verner Moore, Ph.D., M.D., now Dom Pablo Maria, and in presenting him with a contribution for the benefit of the Carthusian Foundation in America.

The members present voted to approve the above citation, and to contribute .00 from the Association funds to the Carthusian Foundation in America, as an exssion of esteem and appreciation of Father Moore's outstanding contributions as a holic Psychologist.

members.....

At the meeting of the Board of Directors held the day after the general ting, in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee on Membership, the lowing persons were elected to membership in the Association:

Constituent Members

Arnold, Mrs. Magda B.
Shire, Sr. Mary Louise, O.S.U.
Sidlauskas, Dr. Agatha E.

Associate Members

*Conway, Paul T.
Finnegan, Rev. Darrell F. X., S.J.
*Gaya, Rev. Dr. John S.
*Mendola, Vincent S.
*Moore, Jacqueline A.
Pikunas, Justin
Pollard, Sr. Marie Baptista, S.S.J.
Quinlan, Sr. Michael of the Cross, D.W.
Sullivan, Daniel C.
*Vistica, Nicholas J.

*Charter members in virtue of previous potential membership.

BOOK REVIEW SECTION

Ford, John C., S.J. DEPTH PSYCHOLOGY, MORALITY AND ALCOHOLISM. Weston, Mass.: Westo College, 1951. Pp. 88. $1.00.

The present monograph is a reprint from the proceedings of the fifth annual m ing of the Catholic Theological Society of America, held in Washington, D. C., June 2 1950. As the title indicates, the work deals with two rather unrelated topics, depth chology and alcoholism, both being considered, however, from the viewpoint of subject morality. It is certainly significant, and Catholic psychologists will find it encou aging, that the Catholic Theological Society recognizes the possibility that recent d on behavior may raise some new problems relative to moral responsibility.

In the section on depth psychology and morality, Father Ford is concerned wit the relation between unconscious psychic activity (unconscious motivation) and freedo and sets as his problem to inquire "...whether the discoveries of psychoanalysis as t unconscious motivation in normal persons force us to the conclusion that their subjec tive responsibility is destroyed or notably impaired." (p.10).

The first part of this section deals with the fundamental concepts of psycho-analysis. In view of the author's extensive bibliography, it is surprising to find that this entire portion is based exclusively upon secondary sources, and that there is only one direct reference -- and that a general one -- to any of Freud's works. These secondary references were probably quite sufficient for Father Ford's original purpose, but they detract from the effectiveness of the work in its wider circulation as a monograph.

Since the author is not a psychologist and freely acknowledges this fact, he relies upon the authority of those who are in the section entitled: Psychologists versus Depth Psychology. Here he cites a number of psychologists, Catholic and non-Catholic, who oppose psychoanalysis, simply, as he says, to emphasize a fact; namely, that psychologists generally are by no means in agreement as to the validity of the fundamental conceptions of psychoanalytical psychology. (p.20).

This section seems to the present reviewer to be largely wide of the mark. Despite the fact that the only point at issue is whether there exists a dynamic unconscious which is capable of influencing even normal behavior, Father Ford cannot refrain from introducing such hoary objections to psychoanalysis as its faulty scientific method, its over-easy generalizations, and its preoccupation with sex. The impression left upon the reader of this section is that the question of the existence o an active psychological unconscious is an open one among professional psychiatrists a psychologists. One may doubt the accuracy of this summary. Father Ford (p.42) quote David Shakow's address at the 1948 APA convention to the effect that 90 per cent of t psychiatrists in this country are orientated analytically. This orientation means th they agree at least on one fact: namely, on the existence of a dynamic psychological conscious and on its ability to influence behavior. As for psychologists, it seems s ficient to point out that very few of them would currently deny the fundamental validi of projective techniques, which rest upon the assumption of a dynamic unconscious.

The next section, entitled: "Suppose Unconscious Motivation Proved," contains the heart of the question. Here Father Ford makes several excellent points, and inclines us to wish that he had not spent himself so much on preliminaries. The crux of the problem is that unconscious motivation may influence without determing, and hence is not a necessary opponent of freedom. Two helpful analogies are cited. The first compares the agent under the influence of unconscious motivation to an airplane pilot who is not familiar with all the working of the machinery which he nevertheless controls (p.36). The second analogy suggested is that of divine grace (p.37), which need not be conscious, and which attracts without determining the will.

In the second part of the monograph dealing with morality and alcoholism, the thor writes with greater assurance and mastery of his subject. He distinguishes al-holism from drunkenness, and characterizes the former as a disease of the body, of the nd, and of the soul. The author's forthright treatment of the compulsive nature of al-holic addiction and its consequent effect upon morality is a contribution, as well as s remarks on the morality of the "blackout."

Mention should be made of the bibliography at the end of the monograph, on rality and depth psychology, and morality and alcoholism, which is the most extensive esistence on these specialized topics, and which affords ample proof of the care ex-nded by the author in its preparation. Despite these painstaking efforts, Father Ford ill writes as an "outsider", so that it seems regrettable that, when the Catholic Theo-gical Society saw fit to consider the matter of depth psychology, it did not go the one ep further and invite a psychologist to discuss it.

rdham University
w York, New York

William C. Bier, S. J.

omme, Allan. THE PSYCHOLOGIST LOOKS AT SEX AND MARRIAGE. New York: Prentice-Hall, 1950. Pp. xv + 248. $2.95.

"A marriage is as well-adjusted as the two personalities involved." (p. ix). he interplay of two personalities in a marriage is, above all other circumstances, e most common ground for either happiness or discord." (p. xi). This is the theme Fromme's book. It is well developed and well handled. He speaks from a keen insight to the problems of modern marriage: and with a directness that challenges the reader roughout the volume. There is a great deal of common sense and practical judgment in e author's observations.

Probably the four best chapters in the book deal with "The Psychology of Sex," ex in Marriage," "Love and Marriage" and "Marriage and the Clash of Personalities." wever, it is to be pointed out that this volume is not for the uninitiated in the eld of counseling and clinical psychology. It is not a book which can be safely read by ose who do not have a thorough understanding of the Christian and Catholic concept of rriage. Fromme does not openly ridicule or argue against morality or religion. He es, however, completely ignore any aspect of marriage other than social and cultural. ere is never any mention of marriage in its Christian meaning.

Fromme stresses the individual's attitude toward sex and marriage as the real use for maladjustment in the marital relationship. He does not condone pre-marital xual relationships. He attempts to be permissive and scientific, pointing out that ether or not such experiences help or hinder marital adjustment must be determined each individual case giving examples of how it might help or hinder later adjustment. is well to note, however, that he stresses the liabilities rather than the assests of ch behavior.

In another instance (p. 105) Fromme discusses contraception. As may be expected, s attitude is strictly utilitarian. He points out the many reasons why married people y not desire children, so that the decision to procreate or not becomes an individual tter. This viewpoint is certainly contrary to morality and to religion. It is to be ressed, however, that the author although he attempts to present all the facts does not any instance recommend this procedure.

In summary, this book has many features which are valuable to anyone who may have counsel others in adjusting to the demands and frustrations of marriage. If the parts the book which are contrary to morality and culture are properly evaluated, this book s many assets. The reviewer cannot recommend the book for general reading.

A. Hospital
scaloosa, Alabama

Martin Brennan, Ph.D.

McKinney, Fred. PSYCHOLOGY OF PERSONAL ADJUSTMENT. (2nd edition). New York: John Wiley 1949. Pp. xii + 752. $6.00.

This book is addressed immediately to college students, their problems and strivings for successful adaptation to the challenges of a new life and to their future as mature adults; indirectly it is for all young men and women.

Dr. McKinney's conception of the essential process of adjustment is the following: each individual in his total behavior is subject to multiple motivation and inner drives. Human behavior is largely characterized by frustration and conflict because of our motivation. Striving to satisfy these desires and conflicts, the individual adopts varying behavior. When it satisfies the need or resolves the conflict in a way that integrates and matures the personality, adjustment has been achieved. If the behavior is persistently non-adjustive, some hidden tension is seeking release. (Ch.1).

Three chapters guide the student in analysing adjustment to college work (study habits, goals, use of class, etc.), to effective learning and to efficient use of time, money and external environment. (Chs. 2,3,4). These are his immediate adjustments. Before a student can attempt complete self-development and attain adjustment to friends and leadership (Ch.10,11), to the opposite sex and marriage (Chs. 12,13), and to his own inner self (Chs. 14,15), he needs to understand the general theory of personality dynamics (Ch.5) and the factors influencing personality from birth onwards (Ch.6). Thus accepting himself totally for what he is, he may set to the creative work of fashioning a mature, confident personality (Ch.7). By discussing and recognizing his problems plus participation in group activities to acquire a sense of personal worth, insight becomes possible and the student consciously builds his character and personality. He needs a philosophy of life (Ch.8) and wise vocational planning and selection. (Ch.9).

Sectional and paragraph headings, a liberal use of italics to give the key concept, and frequent summations keep the thought development exceptionally clear and fix it in the mind. Each chapter has a prolific bibliography and reference section. Very much common sense and valuable practical advice fill the book. I commend the author highly for his views on sex; chapter twelve on this matter is the best non-catholic treatment I have seen to date.

The chapter which treats of a philosophy of life is the weakness of the book. This deficiency pervades the whole book. For adjustment is according to some norm or standard. Dr. McKinney aims at personal growth, inner security, social harmony as the goals of adjustment. They are legitimate proximate aims, but they receive their justification and stability only from some final, ultimate purpose towards which they naturall tend.

I consider this a valuable work, but not for general use without the guidance of a teacher or counselor who will relate the wisdom and experience of the author to our philosophy and theology.

Weston College
Weston 93, Massachusetts

George J. McKeon, S. J.

Strang, Ruth. AN INTRODUCTION TO CHILD STUDY. (3rd edition). New York: Macmillan, 1951. Pp. xi + 705. $4.75.

This volume is the third edition of the original material presented by Dr. Strang. The revision contains invaluable new bibliography including books, articles, and films. The new edition has emphasized and developed more thoroughly both causes and treatment of problems commonly found among school children. The longitudinal approach will help students to understand and associate more vividly certain problems with certain age levels.

In the introduction, the author stresses the uniqueness of personality throughut the child's many-sided development. It is interesting to observe this emphasis and evelopment of the child's individuality as the core of his personality by a non-scholtic writer. The author encourages a deep scientific study of children rather than uperficial statistical surveys which often lead to erroneous judgments in individual ases. Dr. Strang has successfully followed this advice herself by presenting a thorough udy of factual data which includes the results of the most recent researches on child udy.

Throughout the book, Dr. Strang tends to overemphasize the influence of environent on the growth of the child and to under-emphasize the training of his own self-directive powers. For this reason the discussions on discipline and character training are oth superficial and vague. On the basis of this book alone one would not classify the uthor as an extreme Behaviorist, but would be strongly inclined to identify her writings ith the "middle-of-the-roaders" along with Robert Woodworth. At least, this group place object of some type between the traditional S-R bond so that the pattern becomes S-O-R stead of the simple reflex behaviorism. But there is still much to be desired from a holastic viewpoint.

Though it is true that some religion teachers may err by presenting too many and oo minute religious principles to children, we cannot agree with Dr. Strang when she aintains that young children cannot grasp a true notion of God. Speaking of the preschool child Dr. Strang says, "The concept of God as spirit can have little meaning to m. Introducing the idea of God before the child can grasp it may cause serious misnception." Actually the sooner children come to know God as a Person the more solid d grounded are their beliefs and ideals. On the same basis we must reject Dr. Strang's eas on spiritual development when she contends that "there are different ways of being ght, and that people may think and feel differently. Each child can be helped to find d in his own way." This is an ambiguous presentation of morality to say the least.

On the whole, Dr. Strang's book presents a broad general picture of the psychogical evolution of the personality and all the other changes concomitant with each rging phase. With proper supplementary explanations and clarifications from a scholtic viewpoint, this book could be used in Catholic institutions as an undergraduate xt.

rylhurst College
rylhurst, Oregon

Sister Marian Dolores, S.H.N.

ern, Karl. THE PILLAR OF FIRE. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Co., 1951. Pp. vi + 310. $3.50.

The Pillar of Fire is an extraordinary story of the spiritual journey of a psychiist from Judaism to Catholicism. Karl Stern, the author, is gifted with deep spiritual sight and an excellent ability for expressing it. He was born in Bavaria and raised in rather liberal Jewish tradition. While boarding away at school he came in contact with rict Orthodox Jadaism and the imprint of it never left his soul. However his efforts live his life according to the rigorous tenets of Orthodoxy caused him to be ridiculed en by his own family. When he finally realized the impracticality of his endeavors, rl Stern turned sadly away from Orthodox Judaism and looked for the answers in current ilosophies. These could satisfy him in no way; for he still held within himself the rm conviction that the God of the Jews was the true God.

It was the words and example of simple Catholic serving girls working in the homes his friends that started this well educated man thinking about Catholicism. Here he und all that was good in the Jewish religion and infinitely more. Such, briefly, is e plot of this true story; but it says nothing. The genius of the author helps us to ve through with him his spiritual experiences. The narrative is so engrossing one nds it almost impossible to put the book down.

Early in the narrative the author states that he does not want to overburden the story with "psychology." To this decision he adheres rather strictly, perhaps too strict for those of us who are interested in psychology. There are, however, a fair number of references to things psychiatric. One rather startling statement in this line seems worthy of mention here. Before the author found the Truth he was for some time a dialectic materialist. He tells us that at this period in his life he underwent analysis and at the completion of it he could acknowledge the existence and superiority of the spiritual. He tells us no more than that except to say that his analyst, though Jungian, escaped the inherent danger because of his strong though ill-defined Christianity.

Near the end of the book, Doctor Stern points out rather neatly the impossible position Freudian Psychoanalysis puts itself in when it tries to pass judgment on the truth or falsity of Christianity. (page 278). There are enough references to psychology in this book to justify our suggesting this as a must for Catholic psychologists. In fact, for Catholics in general this is a most stimulating spiritual treat, it can and should be highly recommended to all.

Weston College
Weston, Massachusetts

John R. McCa

BOOKS RECEIVED AS OF SEPTEMBER, 15, 1951

Garrett, Henry E. GREAT EXPERIMENTS IN PSYCHOLOGY. (3rd edition). New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1951. Pp. xvii + 358. $3.50.

Mudd, Emily. THE PRACTICE OF MARRIAGE COUNSELING. New York: Association Press, 1951. Pp. xix + 336. $4.50.

Strecker, E., Ebaugh, F. and Ewalt, J. PRACTICAL CLINICAL PSYCHIATRY. (7th edition). New York: Blakiston, 1951. Pp. 506. $7.00.

Wachtel, Curt S. THE IDEA OF PSYCHOSOMATIC MEDICINE. New York: Froben Press, 1951. Pp. viii + 239. $5.00.

Wolff, Werner. CHANGING CONCEPTS OF THE BIBLE. New York: Hermitage House, 1951. Pp. xxiv + 463. $5.00.

THE AMERICAN CATHOLIC PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

An Organization of Professionally Qualified Catholic Psychologists Founded in 1948.

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